

# In-Fur-Nation

## And the Conference Chronicle

Volume 7 Number 3

All The News We Get, We Print!

October, 1997

### In the Jungle, the Mighty Jungle...

Fall has arrived, and boy are things busy! Read on for more helpful information on Conference Nine after a brief update from our intrepid reporters...

Coming this November to Broadway is Disney's newest spectacle: The live-on-stage version of *The Lion King*. Director Julie Taymor brings to the production her own flair for avant-garde stage design and costuming. This production features all the songs from the animated feature film, as well as eight brand new songs from both *The Lion King* musical team of Elton John and Tim Rice; and also Lebo M, creator of music collection *Rhythm of the Pridelands*. Among the talent found on stage is Samuel Wright as Mufasa - Sam was also the voice of Sebastian the crab in Disney's *The Little Mermaid*.

She came, she saw, she kicked dinosaur butt: All of Japan is a-buzz about *Princes Mononoke*, the latest animated feature from well-known director Hayao Miyazaki. The film made news by out-grossing the box office of *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*, which opened the same weekend in Japan. The story details how the princess of a mountainous, forested kingdom and her cohorts fight off the evil forces sent to pillage the land. According to *Variety*: "Mountain gods, hybrid animals, and others join the princess in the grisly fight". News has hit Hollywood that Disney Pictures has picked up the American distribution rights for this film.

The animated film *Cats Don't Dance*, which has generated a lot of buzz amongst animation and funny animal fans in both the 'zines and on the Internet, premiered on video in August and stayed in the top 10 of video tape sales in the U.S. for three weeks. It still remains in the top 10 of "children's video" sales, though somebody else would have to tell us how they go about making that distinction.

Fall TV season is here, and though the pickings aren't as good as they've been some years in the past, there are still several new animated shows of furry interest to look out for. *Extreme Dinosaurs* is an action/adventure cartoon show reminiscent of both *Dinosaucers* and the comic book *Dinosaurs for Hire*. Disney TV Animation brings us the new *101 Dalmations* show (in syndication), as well as a new season of *Jungle Cubs* - now with the gang a year older and the show called *Jungle Juniors*.

A new live-action show of note is *Mowgli: The New Adventures of the Jungle Book*, filmed in the rain forests of Costa Rica. In the cartoon series *Ned's Newt*, a hyperactive young boy and his companion, a giant salamander, try to stay out of trouble. Our friends the Ninja Turtles return in *Ninja Turtles: The Next Mutation*, now aided by a fifth turtle: A female named Venus De Milo. And cult comic book crime-fighters *Sam & Max* now also have their own cartoon show. (Most of these new shows will be premiering soon on Fox TV Saturday Morning.) On cable TV, look for *Bingo and Molly* (a forest adventure cartoon for preschoolers) on The Learning Channel, and *PB & J* (also for preschoolers, this cartoon features a family of young otters) on Disney Channel. The Disney Channel has also picked up Henson Productions' new series *Muppets Tonight*, while *Jim Henson's Greek Myths* will appear in November on HBO.

Southern California painter Ron Rodlecker (seen frequently at the summer Sawdust Art Festival in Laguna) has a new animated TV series, *Dragon Tales*. The series follows the adventures of Blaze the Dragon and his human friend Max, and will be premiering on PBS in 1998.

Come the holiday season, Walt Disney Pictures will release it's new direct-to-video animated feature, *Beauty and the Beast: The Enchanted Christmas*. Coinciding with the video release will be a new digest-sized full color comic, *Beauty and the Beast Holiday Special*, from Acclaim Comics.

New in black & white from Olipo press is *Castle Waiting*, written and illustrated by Linda Medley. The basic concept of this fantasy series goes like this: What might have happened to some of our favorite fairy tale characters and settings after the 'happily ever after' part. The already well-received quarterly comic (compared in many circles to *Bone*) features numerous well-known and newly created fairy tale people; human, furry, and fantastic.

More *Sonic the Hedgehog* material from Archie Comics; this time it's the new trade paperback *Sonic the Hedgehog: Firsts*. Featuring full-color artwork by Gallagher, Kanterovich, Penders, Shaw! and Manak, features reprints from the first Archie Comics issue, as well as the origins of such characters as Bunnie Rabbit and Knuckles the Echidna.

A different kind of furry story... in *Cavewoman: Missing Link #1* from Basement Comics, the small town of Marshville, Oregon is transported back in time more than 70 million years, it brings with it an unusual local... bigfoot! Now the legendary creature must contend with challenges from the local man-apes. Black & white adventure from Walton, Schumaker, and Root.

Comic artist Charles Yates has a new black & white trade paperback coming out from Tomic Press (Caliber Comics) called *Dinosaurs: An Illustrated Guide*. It contains nearly 70 pages of dinosaur illustrations, the carnivores and the herbivores, with helpful explanatory text throughout as well.

From Koala Comics comes *Captain Koala #1* (makes sense, doesn't it?). In this new black & white adventure/comedy series, the Australian Secret Service (A.S.S., get it?) are aided in their pursuit of deadly terrorists across the outback by a young talking koala - with aspirations of super-hero-dom.

Another new black & white series, this time from Spitwad Comics: *Rat Foo*. It's described by its creators, Larry Rains Jr. and Brian Koolan, as a cross between Jackie Chan and *The X-Files*... with kung-fu fighting rats.

Prudence and Leon, from the black & white comic *Prudence & Leon*, are two people who just can't seem to get along - but who are destined to fall in love. Standing in their way, among many things, is the fact that she's a human and he's, well, not. Brought to you by Seth Merriman and Mantle Press.

A very unusual fable, in black & white, from Sirius Comics' new imprint Dog Star Press. In *The Red Flannel Squirrel*, all of a young child's plushy animals are very happy to be played with and loved... except for the vain red flannel squirrel, who brags about having never been stained or mussed or... even touched. Featuring the artwork of Kristin Perry.

The pages of *Quantum & Woody*, from Acclaim Comics, feature the adventures of 'The World's Worst Super-Hero Team'. They also now feature Quantum and Woody's new sidekick, Vincent Van Goat: A would-be superhero who's, well, a goat. Already 'The Goat' is popular enough by himself that Acclaim has declared the month of November 'Goat Month', with special sale prices available on *Quantum & Woody* trade paperbacks and other titles.

New in full color from Mad Monkey Press is *The Witch & The Willow*, a new adventure in the realm of *A Magician's Village* by Kaja & Christina Blackley. Our young hero returns to school in the fifth grade, only to discover that his new teacher is a witch... with evil intentions for him and his classmates.

In the latest issue of *Ragmop* by Rob Walton (from Image Comics), our hero Alice Hawkins is joined in her battle against a slew of evil conspiracies by Harv - a six-foot tall, well-armed, not-so-invisible purple rabbit. Yes, you heard it here.

In *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles #1-4* from Image, Master Shredder must deal with several problems: Recovering from rabies, mutating into a bat, finding the missing Ninja Turtles, and fighting a battle-to-the-death with none other than The Shredder! Featuring the writing of Gary Carlson and art by Frank Fosco and Andrew Pcpoy.

Custom Comics of America brings you *Rooter: The First Annual* by Campbell, Powell, and Dillard. This 120 page issue helps to fill in the background on many characters and situations in this black & white humor comic - featuring a funny-animal blues band and their adventures in the bayous of the south.

Look for the world's first ever funny-cartoon buffalo (they tell us) in *Baink! It's Cartoon Comics #1*. The adventures of Bison, the ebony buffalo, are presented in this black & white comic which combines comic strip and comic book formats.

Coming soon from Radio Comix is a new series: *Tales of the Fehnnik II*. Returning with an all new 4-issue black & white mini-series, writer Elin Winkler is now joined by artist Scotty Arsenault as they continue the story of a headstrong young lady canine named Shayzeri Zodd as she struggles to take her place in the battle against a star-travelling enemy known only as the Haarca - despite a decree from her leaders that females are not to fight.

New from Sirius is the first comic book adaptation of the popular Atari video game *Primal Rage*, scripted by Chris Knowles. In the post-holocaust world of New Urth, giant dinosaur-gods roam the land, battling each other for supremacy over the nomadic tribes of surviving humanity. Featuring cover artwork by The Dark One.

The sixth issue of *Greener Pastures* by Michael Michalands and Tim McEwen (published by Kronos Comics) is available now, and the seventh will ship in December. More info on the further adventures of two-legged bull named Trevor Bovis can be found at the GP Web site, located at [www.gpweb.com/~amara/mog.htm](http://www.gpweb.com/~amara/mog.htm). Remember, several issues of GP also feature a two-page mini-poster by special guest artists, and the entire series comes with a special offer: Send them a recent good-quality photo of yourself, and \$10.00 (presumably in Australian dollars), and your face will appear as an 'extra' in an upcoming issue of *Greener Pastures*. Write them for more information (and for info on back issues, t-shirts, and other stuff) at: Kronos Comics, P.O. Box 411, Kensington, NSW, Australia 2033.

"The Internet's favorite comic is now available on dead trees!" (That's from the front cover!) ConFurence Eight GOH Bill Holbrook has released his popular World Wide Web comic strip *Kevin & Kell* in book form through Online Features Syndicate. *K & K*, for those who don't know, follows the adventures of a computer-savvy rabbit and a corporate-climbing wolf who get married - with all the resulting complications that you can imagine.

For more information on ordering the book, contact: Online Features Syndicate, P.O. Box 931264, Norcross, GA 30093. Of course, you can also find the information on the Web at <http://www.reuben.org/holbrook/kykel.html>.

A new art collection book to look for is *Dino Babes*. That's right, dinosaurs alongside curvaceous human women, depicted in black & white by artists like Joe Chiodo, Mitch Byrd, Esteban Maroto, and many others. While you're at it, look for a new full-color art portfolio from Oliver Vatine called *Girls and Friends*. From a cave woman and her baby stegosaurus to a jungle princess among the apes, comic book artist Vatine presents 6 color plates of fantasy women and their pets.

Two recently published books cover the history of some old favorites of animation. *Fractured Fairy Tales* by A.J. Jacobs is a collection of one of the most popular segments of Jay Ward's *Rocky & Bullwinkle Show*, now written up in book form. Also look for *The Enchanted World of Rankin/Bass* by Rick Goldschmidt, which follows the history of this well-known creative house for cartoon and 3D animation, covering every one of their TV specials, animated series, and feature films (such as *Mad Monster Party*). This book includes more than 400 black & white illustrations and 16 pages of full-color photos.

Published to coincide with the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Warner Brothers Studios, *Warner Bros. Animation Art* by Jerry Beck and Will Friedwald traces the evolution of the animation department and the many well-known artists and creative minds that worked there. Featuring more than 300 color illustrations, plus a catalog of animation art and a chronology of important dates in Warner Brothers history. From Simon & Schuster.

The latest update of John Grant's popular hardcover book *The Encyclopedia of Walt Disney's Animated Characters* will soon be available, now featuring characters from all the animated features and TV shows up to 1997 (ending with *Hercules*). 480 pages, from Hyperion. Also out from Hyperion Books in hardcover is *Pinocchio* by Pierre Lampert, the founder of the Film Animation Association in France. Through intensive research and reproduction, Monsieur Lampert here presents several rarely seen illustrations from the Disney Archives and private collections around the world, showcasing the creation of this classic animated film.

Speaking of Disney, keep your eye out for *The Wonderful World of Disney TV* by William Cotter. This very large volume (628 pages) includes episode guides for all of Disney's television series from over the years, including the animated series from The Disney Afternoon and Saturday morning line-ups.

From Warner Books comes a new short-story anthology, *A Dragon Lover's Treasury of the Fantastic*. Margaret Weis, co-author of the *Dragonlance* series, gathers together dragon stories from the likes of L. Sprague DeCamp, David Drake, Gordon R. Dickson, and others.

Now available as an import is the reprinted manga of *Doraemon*, first printed in Japan in 1974. This best-selling children's manga follows the adventures of a hopelessly inept young school boy and Doraemon, the robotic cat sent back from the future to help him cope.

ConFurence Nine Guest of Honor Lisanne Norman's latest book from DAW, *Razor's Edge*, will be released in time for the convention. Presenting further adventures with the triad of human telepath Carrie and her eat-like Sholan partners, Kusac and Caid, *Razor* follows our friends as they undertake a dangerous rescue mission, looking to save a long-lost world of Sholan and Humans from the reptilian Valtegens, enemy to both species. What they don't know is that the Valtegens have been plotting against any resistance for a long time... Be sure to meet Lisanne at ConFurence Nine, and find out more about her exciting (and very furry) science fiction series.

In new video games, look for *Banjo & Kazooie* for the Nintendo 64 system. Help Banjo the honeybear and his bird-friend, Kazooie, through the many levels of adventure as they seek to rescue Banjo's kidnapped girlfriend, Piccolo. For the Sony Playstation, look for *Oddworld: Abe's Odysee* and *Croc: Legend of the Gobbos*. *Oddworld* presents you with a complex science fiction background, in which the player can be a member of any number of alien species... all of them with only two options: Escape slavery, or become a food animal! In *Croc*, the heroic reptile must battle everything from boiling lava to sharks to giant bees in order to help save the peaceful island of Gobbo from the evil magician, Baron Dante. Of course, you might also want to check out *The Lost World: Jurassic Park* game for the Playstation and the Sega Saturn, where you can actually be a carnivorous dinosaur.

Fan artist (and Hugo Award nominee) Brad Foster is the publisher and head writer of *The Randy Reviewer*; perhaps the only zine dedicated to reviewing erotic, adult-oriented comic books. Issue #7 (from January of this year) featured a lengthy review of the entire *Wild Kingdom* series from MU Press, while the current issue (#9) features a multi-page look at the *Karno's Classics* series of furry titles by Kjartan Arnorsson. Brad encourages creators of furry comics, including the furry-kind, to send him review copies so that he can help spread the word about them. He can be reached (and *Randy Reviewer* can be purchased) at Jabberwocky Graphix, P.O. Box 165246, Irving, TX 75016.

Obituary: Furry fandom was saddened recently by the loss of a well-known artist and writer to a stroke. Mark Wallace had become equally known as Lord William Blackfox in the Society for Creative Anachronism, and had made a name for himself by caricaturing many of his fellow SCA people in funny-animal form through the local kingdom's newsletter and also through his own self-published comic strip, *Warthaven*.

More recently he was the artist and writer of *Lixens' Keep* collection, published in 1995 by MU Press, which again presented the adventures (both serious and not) of various furies in a realistic medieval setting. Lord William himself was a face frequently seen about ConFurence for many years, and he was a personal friend of several members of our staff. His loss is deeply felt, and mourned by all of us.

From: Afike Curtis <[shandaf@cyberback.com](mailto:shandaf@cyberback.com)>:

Coming from Shanda Fantasy Arts in January 1998:

*New Horizons* #3 featuring a *Colt 45D* cover by Terrie Smith and accompanying story by Carl Gafford! Also stories and art by Rommel Karlo C. Ignacio, Steve Addlessee, Dann Phillips, Tanamin, Shawntae Howard, Brock Hoagland, and Mark Merlino (who's he?). *Giant Shanda Animal* #3: *The International Edition* features work by creators from around the world. Special cover by Dan Decarlo (*Archie*). Work by Simon Barber, Noel Williamson, Marko Lane, Jason Gaffney, Charlie Wise, Rommel Karlo C. Ignacio, and Mike Curtis. *SFA Spotlights* #1: *Valiant Varmints*. It's retro-60's superhero teamaction as Fission Chicken, Bullet Crow, Phantom Bunny, Supersvine, Snowbuni, Savage Squirrel, Moon Mouse and Beatrix Farmer battle the menace of Bullethead. Cover by Mike Sagara. Insides by (take a deep breath) J.P. Morgan, Chuck Fiala, Gary Fields, Jeff Wood, Charles Ettinger, Karno, Carl Gafford, Taran Wayne, Carla Speed McNeil, Shane Fisher, and Mike Curtis. *SFA Spotlights* #2: *Women in Fur*. All female creator anthology. Cover by Mary Hanson Roberts. Includes works by Roz Gibson, Terrie Smith, Michele Light, Omaha Sternberg, Carla Speed McNeil, Donna Barr, Roberta Gregory, Carole Curtis, and many others.

All of the above are 48 pages...\$4.50 each.

Coming in 1999:

*Katmandu: The Novel* by Carole Curtis. *Animal Masks: Anthropomorphoses As Modern Totems*, the first history of our field, written by Fred Patten.

And of course...

*Katmandu* by Carole Curtis, Shawntae Howard, and Adrian Kleinbergen. And *Shanda the Panda* by Mike Curtis, Michele Light, Carla Speed McNeil, Steve Addlessee, and Christina "Smudge" Hanson.

Both published bimonthly by Vision Comics.

... the Lion Sleeps Tonight (*The Tokens, et al*)

## ConFurence Nine Progress Report

ConFurence Nine: Furrries in Love! Make a little room in your heart... Right here and now we'll tell you more about our guests, our show, our presentations, and lots of other reasons why you should be a part of ConFurence Nine — Furrries old or new, all are welcome! And remember, we're celebrating Furrries Down Under too, mate!

## Our Guests of Honor

We thought we'd let you know a little more about our Guest of Honor for ConFurence Nine, starting off with Mike and Carole Curtis. Here's some tidbits penned by Mike himself:

Carole Curtis is the creator, editor and writer of *Katmandu*, an adventure series taking place on a world of cats. The book explores two time periods: In the present day, Leahtrah Middlesmith, a healer, lives with her soldier husband Thorin Leonius and their three children. She tells her family stories of an ancestress of hers, Liska Mitsel-Emah. Liska's rise from slave status to that of war chief with wives is based on Native American history and legends. *Katmandu* is published bimonthly by Vision Comics and displays the talents of Shawntae Howard, Shane Fisher, Terrie Smith, Richard Thatchler, Cathy Carter, Ted Vollmer, Paul Seid, Adrian Kleinbergen, and others.

Mike Curtis created and writes *Shanda the Panda*, a slice-of-life comic about Shanda Bruin, a young theater manager. She's involved romantically with Double R, a cajun raccoon, and Terri, a lesbian cricket. Balancing these two relationships along with being substitute mom to Double R's daughter Quinn keeps her pretty busy. The theater crew and their families play large roles, and each cover is a parody of a movie poster. Among the many talented people who have worked on *Shanda* are Michele Light (Artist Guest of Honor), Carla Speed McNeil, Mike Sagara, Steve Addlessee, Charles Ettinger, and Ed Garcia.

Together Mike and Carole are SHANDA FANTASY ARTS. Beginning with small press books five years ago, they moved into full comic publishing three years ago with the *Giant Shanda Animal*. Currently the imprint also publishes *New Horizons*, a semiannual fantasy anthology; and *SFA Spotlights*, also semiannual, with special themed issues. Carole and Mike's goals in publishing are to introduce as many talented individuals as possible into comics, giving them the same opportunities they have been so blessed to receive.

We'll tell you more about our remaining Guests of Honor (SF author Lisanne Norman, illustrator Michele Light, and The FurryMUCK Creators) in our next issue, due in late December.

## And Other Guests Too!

These folks you've heard about! In addition to our Guests of Honor, you'll be seeing such well-known names as Leslie Fish, Steve Gallacci, Daphne Lage, Jose Calderon, Mike Sagara, Mel White, Jim Groat, Brian Sutton, Mitchell Beiro, Ed Kline, Steven Martin, Ted Sheppard, Chuck Melville, Edd Vick, Fred Patten, Mike Raab, Diana Vick, Tommy Yune, Tim Fay, Trump, Yuusaka Toyoshima, John Cawley, Terrie Smith, Lex Nakashima, Jefferson Swycaffer, Roz Gibson, Jimmy Chin, John Nunnemacher, Kelly and Laura Freas, and the crew from Yarf! Whew! Plus say hello to some new faces, who (at least tentatively at this point) have told us they'll come: Harvo, artist of the *Sonic the Hedgehog* comic book and creator of the new *Powder Monkeys* series. (He'll be sitting at the Powder Monkey Press table in the Den of Dealers.) Local fantasy illustrator and TV-show creator Ron Rodecker. And local author David Koenig, whose book *Mouse Under Glass* and other volumes detail some pretty interesting and little-known behind-the-scenes facts and stories about your favorite Disney feature films and theme parks...

## Our Nest

ConFurence once again returns to the Buena Park Hotel, right in the parking lot of Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, California. We're happy to say that they've kept a special deal going for you: Once again rooms are only \$64.00 a night for single, double, triple, or quad! Suites are also available (and darned snazzy!). For reservations, call (800) 422-4444, or the local number (714) 995-1111. Important: Make sure to call during business hours (M-F 9 am - 5 pm, pacifictime), and make sure to mention ConFurence! Reservations are coming in steadily, so think about getting yours in soon!

## Other Accommodations

For those fans of less means, we have four less expensive facilities (less than \$50.00 a night!) for you to stay in, right across the street from our host hotel, and expecting our company! They are, in order of closeness:

The Colony Inn - (800) 98-COLONY  
The Covered Wagon Motel - (714) 995-0033  
Nott's Landing Lodge - (714) 527-1515  
The Crescent Motel - (714) 828-3183

Call the individual motels for room reservations, and be sure to mention both ConFurence and the Buena Park Hotel, as they've made arrangements for special room blocks at each hotel.

## Your Den or Mine?

Between our main hotel and the smaller motels, ConFurence has some of the lowest per-night room rates for an SF/media convention... but, if you find that room costs are still crimping your budget, why not split them? If you are interested in sharing a room at any of the ConFurence facilities, please write us as soon as possible! Include which hotel you'll be staying at (or would like to), the dates you'll be in town, your arrival and departure times, and those all-important preferences (non-smoker, non-snorer, party/no party, etc). Please write Room Share on the envelope, and remember to include a phone number or e-mail! Then we'll pass along the information to other interested furies.

## The Den of Dealers

As of now the Den of Dealers is sold out for ConFurence Nine! Remember, if you're on our waiting list, please, bring your stuff! We'll find room for you in our Artists' Alley, or perhaps in the Den of Dealers itself — cancellations do happen, sometimes at the last minute!

The Artists' Alley remains one of the most popular features of any ConFurence! Tables on the mezzanine at the Buena Park Hotel are available free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis, with sign-ups each morning. But remember: Table spaces will be very limited, and once they're gone they're gone! So be sure to line up for the sign-up... early! Write to Steve Gatusso at the ConFurence address for any information.

## The Art Show

Believe us, if you do art of funny animals, furies, monsters, toons, or even real animals, you want to be in this art show — on of the largest SF/fantasy art shows on the West Coast! But our show will fill up, and soon — so get in your reservations right away! Your first art show space (4 ft. by 4 ft.) is still available free with your paid supporting or attending membership — all you have to do is claim it in writing. Additional art show spaces are available for a low \$5.00 each. Get yours reserved today! What, can't make it to ConFurence? No problem! Reserve your space, then mail us your art before the con — we'll set it up, send you back any unsold items, and get you off a check for what does sell, soon as we can! Write to The Art Show at the ConFurence address for any and all information.

## Events Will Be Great In 1998!

Hey, look what's on the horizon. It's our ever-expanding lineup of events! Including some old favorites, some new ideas, and some new twists! Back again are the exotic Cabaret Fur le Dance, two special Dance Parties (Club Tekno-Fur and The Purple Nurple Live) plus the popular Fur Dance, The Saturday Night Furry Feed, The Ice Cream Social, The Filk-Writing Contest, The Costume Presentation, the Species SIGs — More of what you've come to know and love! Keep watching this space for more details, and be on the lookout for some special presentations and lectures. And more! This time the Writer Lounge and Artist Lounge will be joined by a special Fur-Suit Lounge, specially set aside for costume creators to show-you-experienced builders!

Also added for ConFurence Nine: Our all-new Variety Show on Friday night for singers, dancers, costumed acts, and — well, whatever else we can find! All the proceeds from tickets to this event will also go to local charity. Hey, know what this means? We need acts! Can you sing? Dance? Make furies laugh? We want you! We're looking for new acts (that is, stuff you haven't done at a bunch of other cons or events) to make part of our show... just get together a written proposal (with a resume'), or an audio tape, or a video of what you plan to do, and get it to show coordinator Jolin Cawley on or before December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1997. Write to him (or send your materials) care of the ConFurence address, and keep in mind — You need to be ready to come to the run-through rehearsal beforehand on Friday night! And keep in mind — This is a family oriented show, so try and be spiffy about it. If you prefer spiffy over spiffy, maybe try out for Saturday night's Cabaret Fur le Dance — that old favorite is coming back for another year too!

What else is to be going on at ConFurence Nine? Meetings and Round-Table Discussions (Special Interest Groups or 'SIGs'); Workshops and How-To Sessions: Videos around the clock in our Video Theater; Computer art, animation, and 'netting; Gaming of all sorts: Filking through the night; Sketching by dozens of furry artists of every description and style — and so much more! The rest? That's up to you and your energy to see help us create!

### Remember: Keep Your Claws Sheathed In Public, Please!

A reminder about our Weapons Policy at ConFurence. For the length of the convention and seminar (Thursday through Sunday) we are requiring that all realistic or simulated weapons be piece-bonded, by yourself or a member of our Con Security team. That includes anything that looks like guns, swords, knives, whips and cat-o-nine-tails, etc. Let's make this a safe and happy con for all who'd like to come, furies! [Note: For special items that need to be displayed as part of the Costume Presentation, the Variety Show, or the Cabaret Fur le Dance, write to us!]

## A Word from the Staff about Well-Behaved Furies

People of late have been asking us, the staff of ConFurence, about what sort of people we think ought to be attending our convention (and, presumably, what sort of people we think *shouldn't*). Frankly, any person willing to put up with our little spin on fandom ought to feel welcome at ConFurence, so long as they are polite and mature enough to behave civilly in public places and respect the rights of others — as well as the diversity they're reliable to see. Now then, as to who ConFurence is actually *for*, there we can be more specific.

ConFurence is a convention, seminar, and trade-show put together annually for the enjoyment of two specific groups: 1) Furry Fans, and 2) friends and relations of Furry Fans who can at least tolerate the idea enough to have a good time. That's about it. If a person really doesn't fall into either of those categories, chances are they're just not going to 'get' this gathering, and they're less likely to get along. We are not your standard-issue general SF convention, nor are we one great big dealer's room for traders and collectors of super-hero comics, nor are we a space for one great big live role-playing game. All of these things can be (and are) aspects of ConFurence, of course — but only under the bigger umbrella of Furry Fandom itself.

Like the animals that many of us respect or even try to emulate, the ConFurence attendee needs to learn how to get by when surrounded by a wide variety of life. Think about it: We have furies coming from all age groups, political backgrounds, economic groups, and every nearly every continent on Earth. The ideal is to respect everyone else's personal space, and ask those around you (as politely as possible) to respect yours. Politeness is the key to everything — all those pointers that your grandmother hopefully gave you still count, and how! In our next *In-Fur-Nation* and at ConFurence itself, we're going to print up some basic guidelines and suggestions for what does and doesn't constitute well-behaved furry-dom when at a convention. Look at them, and try to keep them in mind — and remember, working together we can better make ConFurence enjoyable for everyone, of all stripes and spots!

### Not to Discriminate against Dragons, but...

For the length of ConFurence Nine, we are asking that there be No Smoking in the general convention areas (including the hotel lobby) or in the Lounges, unless you come equipped with a special mechanical smoke-removing filter device. (Yes, they actually make them.) Smoking will be allowed in individual sleeping rooms and other places where the hotel permits it. Just try to keep in mind: ConFurence gets crowded, and there's only so much oxygen to go around!



## The Price

Registration to ConFurence Nine is on a sliding scale — All memberships are \$25.00 for a full three-days Attending, from now until December 1st, 1997. From December 2nd, 1997 until January 8th, 1998, three-day Attending memberships are available for \$30.00, and after that, at-the-door for \$30.00 also. Plus, a full year of In-Fur-Nation, and our special annual ConFurence Souvenir Collection Book, are all included in the price of your membership! A single art show display space is also included free with your membership — if you write us and claim it!

And remember, we'd love to have you join us, but if you cannot make it out to our neck of the woods, feel free to join ConFurence as a Supporting member! Supporting members get a full year's subscription to In-Fur-Nation, the Souvenir Collection Book, and one free art show display space for the taking, all for the low price of just \$15.00! And, if your fortunes change, you can convert your supporting to a full attending membership at the door for only \$15.00 more. Such a deal, he said! So get your memberships now!

## Help! We Need Somebody...

### And Now A Word About Our Sponsors

Sponsors help us keep ConFurence going by giving a little extra bit (or a lot extra bit!) of financial help. This is money for transporting, lodging, and feeding our special guests. To become a Sponsor, contribute a minimum of \$50.00 (up to \$99.00), which includes your initial membership fee. Remember: Indicate which of our guests this money is to help toward, or just mark it "general fund" (for our Guests of Honor exclusively). And what do you get for being a sponsor? Sponsors are the only folks (besides staff and guests) allowed in the Guest Lounge, a special place set aside where folks can relax away from the hubbub of the con. And dine on some complimentary gourmet snacks, too. Plus, sponsors get some special prices on materials from the ConFurence store. All this, plus your name in our souvenir book — and, our sincere gratitude!

### Super Sponsors! Tah Dah!

Super Sponsors are the *awesome* excellent furry folk who *really* want to help out ConFurence — and who think they deserve something special in return. These special furs are willing to contribute \$100.00 or more (which includes their initial memberships) toward a special guest of their choice, or just toward the Guests of Honor in general. Super Sponsors get all the same neat stuff as other Sponsors, plus a few added bonuses! (Write us for details.) Super Sponsors and Guests have their very own V.I.P.-only Lounge — and wait until you see it! What? Don't have \$100.00 sitting around handy? Make installments! That's right, we'll take two payments of \$50.00, or four payments of \$25.00 — it still counts you as a Super Sponsor, as long as it totals \$100.00 by the time of the con itself.

Once again at ConFurence Nine for Sponsors and Supers: We're setting up a special 'Express Registration Line' just for our pre-registered sponsors and supersponsors. You can bypass the rest of the line-up at Con Reg (follow the signs!), and get your badges and other con stuff right away!

### So Who Are We Sponsoring, Anyway?

An important notice for Sponsors and Super-Sponsors: Keep in mind that contributions put toward the 'General Fund' go toward the transportation, housing, and feeding of our Guests of Honor *only* (Hey, remember, we've got our very first GOH from another continent this year!) Other guests can ask for Sponsorship as well, but *only* if people specifically ear-mark a contribution (or part) toward them, by name. Guests currently looking for Sponsorship help include puppeteer Steve Plunkett and fan artist Jack Cavanaugh. Like to help them out? Or someone else you have in mind? Let us know!

### You Left Your Heart at ConFurence?

The ConFurence Nine Souvenir Book collection is now accepting! We need black & white art, and short articles, in a furry frame of mind to give our members and supporters. Subjects should reflect our main con theme this year (furry romance and relationships), our sub-theme (the animals of Australia), or the works of one of our Guests of Honor. No pay, and the rights return to you immediately after the con, but here's a chance to get your visions or ideas out in front of a thousand or more furrytens! Interested? Write or call for more information, or send your articles (up to 500 words) or *copies only* of your black-and-white artwork to the ConFurence P.O. Box. Attn: Souvenir Book. Remember — The deadline for submissions to the Souvenir Book is **October 31st, 1997** — so get hopping, mate!

### Our Gophers Are REALLY Gophers!

Conventions like ours cannot be pulled off without a dedicated team of volunteers. Trust us, we can always use more help! What's it take? Sixteen hours (minimum) of your time, spread over the length of the con (though more is always appreciated!) helping out with Registration, Art Show shuffling and paperwork, sound and lighting, and all kinds of stuff it takes to do this. Note: We especially need help with *Registration* and *The Art Show*, but both require some training (which we provide). Write to us for more details! What do you get for your efforts? Well first and foremost, a free space to crash in and cheap (if not free) munchies for the length of the con! Plus a chance for a free membership to the following ConFurence, transferable to certain 'stuff' at the ConFurence General Store. Want more info on ConFurence volunteering? Just send a note to Rod O'Riley at the ConFurence address (or his e-mail address) and he'll send you out a Volunteer Information Packet right away!

If you'd like to volunteer at the Con itself, just head right to the desk with the sign in nice big friendly letters that says **Volunteers**.

#### **Furries on the Move - How Does The Kitty-Cat Go?**

ConFurence's own official travel agency is **Ladera Travel** of Southern California. They've specialized for years in getting good rates for travel to and from SF cons, including ours! Contact Rick Foss at (800) 624-6679 from outside California, or (310) 640-0527 inside California.

#### **Okay I've Landed. Now How Far Do I Have to Waddle?**

The Buena Park Hotel has shuttle-bus services available from both Los Angeles International and John Wayne / Orange County Airports. Round-Trip Prices are very reasonable (\$14.00 one-way, \$22.00 round-trip from Los Angeles Airport; \$10.00 one-way, \$16.00 round-trip from John Wayne/Orange County Airport). For more information, call (800) 772-5299. Group rates are available if you're arriving with a herd, but they need at least 24 hours notice, so best to call soon!

#### **The Great Furry Migration of Mid-Winter**

Road Trip! Looking for an easier way to get to ConFurence Nine? How about a carpool or caravan! Get to spend some 'quality time' with some old or brand new friends! ConFurence will assist furries interested in ride-sharing to CF9. Write to us with your schedule, whether or not you have a vehicle or can help drive, and other pertinent info (like where you're coming from!). We'll pass the info along to others in your area (or path) who'd like to ride share. Put Ride Share on the envelope, and make sure to include a phone number!

Coming in the next In-Fur-Nation (late December) will be some vital information for dealers, artists, and just plain furries who will be joining us.

Happy Holidays, everyone! Don't be left in the burrow!

Keep in touch with the world of Anthropomorphics!

Join ConFurence Nine Today!

*the tail end of summer....*





## ConFurence 9 Membership Form

Name	AKA	Phone Number (optional)
Address	Street	Ap/Unit
City	State	Postal code
Country		

Attending: \$25.00 (all 3 1/2 days) until Dec. 1, 1997 - \$30.00, after, and at the door. Includes In-Fur-Nation news.  
 Supporting: \$15.00 (includes In-Fur-Nation news and Con material. Maybe converted at the door for \$15.00)  
 Sponsorship: \$50.00 or more, up to \$99.00. Includes special guest privileges at the con.  
 SuperSponsor: \$100.00 or more. Includes VIP privileges at the con.  
 I am an Artist. Reserve my free Art Show space now. I need \_\_\_\_\_ additional spaces @ \$5.00 each (limited to 5 spaces in all)  
 Please make your Check or Money Order, made out to ConFurence. Send memberships, and any requests for information,  
 (dealer tables, art show, artist's alley, costume presentation, programming, guests, etc.) to:  
**ConFurence, PO BOX 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958**  
 Telephone (Lantana Ltd): (714) 530-4993 or (800) 234-8237; FAX (714) 530-2554; Internet: syls@confurence.com  
 Home Page: <http://www.confurence.com>

### ConFurence General Store an array of fine Furry goods and services for you!

**The ConFurence Collections:** These books of art, articles and short stories are very popular! ConFurence 6, 7, and 8 (56 pages!) for only \$5.00 each. Includes postage for North America. Please add \$2.00 for overseas post.

**ConFurence 7 "Furries in Force" highlights video:** What happened at CF7? Check out this audiovisual sampler of our 1996 gathering including the dedication of "Check-point Furry", artists, dealers, guests, songs, dancing and general silliness. Almost 2 hours long. VHS -NTSC (for other formats, please write to us). \$15.00, which INCLUDES N. American postage. Please add \$2.00 for overseas post. **Color Prints and more!** CF8 Dragon Song print by Brian Harp, (\$3.00 each). Sydney Wants YOU! CF7, David Bliss' recruiting poster with our mascot, Sydney! (\$3.00 each). Our CF5 Anime heroes *FiveFur* have two "cast pictures" by Michele Light. (\$5.00 for set) Includes team bios and episode guide. From CF6 we have the pair of magical themed prints of Sydney and Cairn by Daphne Lage (\$5.00 for the set). From CF4 Terrie Smith's mini-poster with Sydney, Cairn and a newly-hatched gryphon chick (kit?). The 11" X 17" color poster is only \$2.00. Please include \$1.00 for postage per print or set. (please add \$2.00 per order (not item) for overseas post)



**CF8 "Sydney Fisher Tour" T-shirt**  
 art by Michele Light. With dates and locations of all 9 cons. (CF0 to CF8) and "ConFurence 8, Sydney Fisher Tour, Tails High!" printed on the back. White printing with red accents on a black shirt. \$15.00 each.  
 Sizes M, L, XL, XXL and XXXL  
 Please include \$3.00 (each) N.A. postage OR \$5.00 for overseas post.

**CF7 "Furries in Force" T-shirt**  
 art by Eric Schwartz. Black printing on honey-colored shirt (except for XXXL which is "natural" color). Sizes M, L, XL, XXL and XXXL  
 \$15.00 each. Please include \$3.00 (each) for North American postage OR \$5.00 for overseas post.



### ConFurence General Store Order form:

Please fill out your mailing address and phone number on the other side of this form!

ConFurence Collection Books: CF6 _____ CF7 _____ CF8 _____	@ \$5.00 each = _____
ConFurence 7 <i>Furries in Force</i> Highlights Video _____	@ \$15.00 each = _____
Color Laserprint sets: Brian Harp "Dragon Song" print _____	@ \$3.00 each = _____
David Bliss "Sydney Wants YOU!" _____	@ \$3.00 each = _____
Michel Light "FiveFur" set. _____	@ \$5.00 each = _____
Daphne Lage "Magic" set. _____	@ \$5.00 each = _____
Terrie Smith mini-poster _____ (shipped in tube)	@ \$2.00 each = _____
T-Shirts: CF8 "Sydney Fisher Tour" _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____	@ \$15.00 each = _____
CF7 "Furries in Force" _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____	@ \$15.00 each = _____
Don't forget the POSTAGE per item/order if required. (see above)	
TOTAL for General Store order (US dollars only please) Thank you! :	\$ _____

Please make checks or money orders out to: ConFurence (do not send cash)

Please Recycle

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## CONFURENCE NINE BASIC INFORMATION

### WHEN:

JANUARY (15),16,17,18, 1998

### WHERE:

BUENA PARK HOTEL  
and Convention Center  
\$ 64.00 / night (up to 4 per room)  
7675 Crecent Ave.  
Buena Park, CA 90602

### RESERVATIONS:

Call (800) 422-4444 or (714) 995-1111  
9am and 5pm, M-F (mention ConFurence)

### MEMBERSHIP:

\$ 25.00 for 3-day, attending (until 12-1-96)  
\$ 30.00 after 12-1 and at the door  
\$ 15.00 supporting membership (anytime)  
(includes 4 issues of In-Fur-Nation and  
the ConFurence Collection souvenir book)  
\$15.00 will convert supporting to attending  
(paid at the con)

### Sponsorship:

A minimum contribution of \$ 50.00  
(includes attending membership)

### Super Sponsorship:

A minimum contribution of \$ 100.00  
(may be made in payments of \$ 50.00 or  
\$25.00. Includes attending membership.)

GUESTS OF HONOR: Lisanne Norman,  
Michele Light, Mike and Carole Curtis  
Creators of FurryMuck MUD

### TRAVEL AGENT:

Ladera Travel, Rick Foss  
(800) 624-6679 or (310) 640-0527

### FOR MORE INFO., WRITE OR CALL:

ConFurence  
PO Box 1958  
Garden Grove, CA 92842-1958  
Phone: (714) 530-4993 or (800) 234-8237  
(Lantana Ltd., ask for ConFurence)

### E-MAIL:

General info: [syls@confurence.com](mailto:syls@confurence.com)  
Dealer's Room: [doodles@primenet.com](mailto:doodles@primenet.com)  
Guests: [vinson@confurence.com](mailto:vinson@confurence.com)  
Art Show, Membership: [syls@confurence.com](mailto:syls@confurence.com)  
Home Page: <http://www.confurence.com>

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GARDEN GROVE, CA  
92842-1958

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